Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A carton blank for a carton, said carton blank being formed from a sheet material and comprising a plurality of foldably connected panels which form the walls of the corresponding carton, said panels comprising main panels separated by a plurality of longitudinal folds and arranged to form pairs of opposing side walls in said corresponding carton a first pair of main panels each being foldably connected at either end to a respective end panel, said end panels being arranged to form opposing end walls in said corresponding carton, each end wall comprising first and second end panels, and a second pair of main panels each being foldably connected at either end to only a central portion of a curved transverse edge of a respective end flap, wherein said blank is foldable to provide said corresponding carton in which the transverse edges of the opposing side walls formed by said second pair of main panels are arranged in general correspondence with the longitudinal edges of adjacent respective end panels and the transverse edges of the respective end flaps connected thereto, and wherein one of said first main panels includes ~~at least one of said first end panels is provided with~~ an end tab foldably connected ~~thereto~~ to each of said first end panel and adapted for fixation to a side wall or to an underside of the corresponding second end panel in said corresponding carton.

2. (original) A carton blank as claimed in claim 1, in which the blank is arranged to form a carton having four side walls.

3. (cancelled)

4. (original) A carton blank as claimed in claim 3, in which the end tab is adapted to be folded for fixation to a side wall.

5. (original) A carton blank as claimed in claim 3, the arrangement being such that the end tab is fixable to the underside of the corresponding second end panel foldably attached to the side wall opposite the side wall formed by the main panel to which said end tab is indirectly connected via the intervening respective first end panel.

6. (original) A carton blank as claimed in claim 5, the arrangement being such that the end tab is fixable to the underside of said second end panel so that the transverse fold connecting said first end panel to the respective main panel is substantially aligned with a transverse fold connecting said corresponding second end panel to the respective main panel.

7. (previously presented) A carton blank as claimed in claim 5, the arrangement being such that, in the corresponding carton, the end tab is folded through approximately 180° once the second end panel is secured in position.

8. (previously presented) A carton blank as claimed in claim 7, in which the end tab is adapted for fixation by adhesion using a suitable adhesive agent.

9. (previously presented) A carton blank as claimed in claim 8, in which the end tab is sized and shaped to provide optimal interaction between the various end wall components in the corresponding carton.

10. (original) A carton blank as claimed in claim 9, in which the end tab is sized and shaped for fixation to a portion of the underside of the corresponding second end panel that does not contact an adjacent end flap in the assembled carton.

11. (previously presented) A carton blank as claimed in claim 9, in which the adjacent end wall components are sized and shaped to contact one another at points not covered by the fixed end tab.

12. (previously presented) A carton blank as claimed in claim 11, in which the sheet material comprises cardboard.

13. (previously presented) A carton blank as claimed in claim1, in which the sheet material comprises a plastics material.

14. (previously presented) A carton blank as claimed in claim 13, formed from a single piece of sheet material.

15. (previously presented) A carton blank as claimed in claim 14, in which the main panels comprise generally rectangular panels, the longitudinal folds separating the main panels being substantially parallel to one another.

16. (previously presented) A carton blank as claimed in claim 15, in which at least a first main panel is provided with a side tab foldably connected to a longitudinal edge thereof, said tab

being adapted for fixation to a further main panel the longitudinal edge of which is adjacent the longitudinal edge of said first main panel in the corresponding assembled carton.

17. (original) A carton blank as claimed in claim 16, in which the side tab is substantially the same length as said first main panel.

18. (previously presented) A carton blank as claimed in claim 16, in which the side tab is fixable using an adhesive.

19. (previously presented) A carton blank as claimed in claim 18, in which the first pair of main panels have substantially the same width in the transverse direction from the second pair of main panels.

20. (previously presented) A carton blank as claimed in claim 19, in which the main panels are of substantially equal length in the longitudinal direction.

21. (previously presented) A carton blank as claimed in claim 20, in which the main panels within each of said first and second pairs of main panels are of substantially equal dimensions such that the carton blank may be assembled into a corresponding carton in which opposing walls of substantially the same length and width provide a carton with substantial symmetry.

22. (previously presented) A carton blank as claimed in claim 21, in which the end panels are foldably connected at the transverse end of the respective main panels, and are sized and shaped to form end walls in the corresponding carton which provide, in conjunction with the

adjacent side walls, a substantially continuous enclosure of the interior void defined within the corresponding assembled carton.

23. (previously presented) A carton blank as claimed in claim 22, in which the transverse edge of each end flap comprises a transverse fold, wherein the end flap is continuous with the respective main panel and separated therefrom by said transverse fold.

24. (previously presented) A carton blank as claimed in claim 1, in which each end flap is connected to its respective main panel via a connecting portion, which is equidistant from either end of the transverse edge of said respective main panel.

25. (previously presented) A carton blank as claimed in claim 24, in which the end flaps and/or end panels are provided with one or more cutaway portions that permit contact between end wall components positioned on either side thereof in the assembled carton.

26. (previously presented) A carton blank as claimed in claim 25, in which corresponding end panels and end flaps are adapted to be fixed together in the corresponding carton to provide secure opposing end walls.

27. (original) A carton blank as claimed in claim 26, in which said end panels and end flaps are mutually fixable using an appropriate adhesive.

28. (previously presented) A carton blank as claimed in claim 27, in which the blank is foldable into a carton in which the opposing side walls formed by the second pair of main panels are curved.

29. (original) A carton blank as claimed in claim 28, in which the opposing side walls formed by said second pair of main panels are curved outwards, i.e., in a convex manner, in the assembled carton.

30. (original) A carton blank as claimed in claim 29, in which the transverse edge of each end flap foldably connected to the respective main panels is curved and the end panels have corresponding curved opposing longitudinal edges.

31. (original) A carton blank as claimed in claim 30, in which the blank is arranged such that, in the assembled carton, transverse edges of the opposing side walls formed by the second pair of main panels are arranged in general correspondence with the curved longitudinal edges of adjacent respective end panels and the curved transverse edges of the respective end flaps, whereby said opposing side walls formed by the second pair of main panels have a curved profile in the transverse direction.

32. (previously presented) A carton blank as claimed in any one of the claims 29, in which the curved transverse edge of each end flap is foldably connected to the respective main panel via a connecting portion that is approximately equidistant from either end of said curved edge.

33. (original) A carton blank as claimed in claim 32, in which said connecting portion foldably connects said end flap to said respective main panel at a point approximately equidistant from either end of the transverse edge of said respective main panel.

34. – 39. (cancelled)

40. (previously presented) A method of forming a carton from a corresponding carton blank as claimed in claim 43, the method comprising further including the step of fixing an end tab foldably connected to at least one of the first pair of end panels to one of said side wall or to the underside of the corresponding second end panel.

41. (original) A method as claimed in claim 40, wherein the end tab is fixed to the side wall or corresponding second end panel using a suitable adhesive.

42. (original) A method as claimed in claim 41, wherein the adhesive is pre-applied to the surface of the end tab to be fixed to a side wall or corresponding second end panel in the formation of the carton.

43. (currently amended) A method of forming a carton from a corresponding carton blank comprising the following sequential steps:

a) cutting a piece of flat sheet material into a corresponding carton blank, said corresponding carton blank comprises main panels boarded by parallel longitudinal folds defining first main panel foldably connected to second main panel foldably connected to third main panel foldably connected to fourth main panel, a pair of second end panels foldably connected to either end of said first main panel, a pair of first end panels foldably connected to either end of said third main

panel, two pairs of end flaps each having a curved transverse edge defining first pair of end flaps and second pair of end flaps, said first pair of end flaps are foldably connected to only a central portion of ~~at~~ said curved transverse edge to either end of said second main panel, and said second pair of end flaps are foldably connected ~~at~~ to said central portion of said curved transverse edge to either end of said fourth main panel;

b) folding the main panels along their respective said longitudinal folds to form side walls of the carton; and

c) folding said pair of first end panels, said pair of second end panels, and said two pairs of end flaps to form end walls.

44. (original) A method as claimed in claim 43, wherein the side walls held in the desired arrangement prior to the step of forming the end walls.

45. (original) A method as claimed in claim 44, in which the side walls held in the desired arrangement by means of a side tab foldably connected to a longitudinal edge of a first main panel.

46. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 45, wherein the method includes the step of fixing a first main panel to said fourth main panel brought adjacent thereto in the folded arrangement by fixing said side tab foldably connected to said first main panel to said fourth main panel.

47. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 43, in which each end wall is formed by folding and fixing the respective end panels and end flaps.

48. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 47, in which the process of forming each end wall comprises the following sequential steps:

a) folding one of the pair of first end panel having an end tab connected thereto and holding the one of the pair of first end panel in position by fixing the end tab to one of said side walls or to the underside of the corresponding one of said pair of second end panel, the end tab having itself been folded into the appropriate configuration;

b) folding one of said first pair of end flaps and one of said second pair of end flaps defining opposing end flaps into position; and

c) folding the one of said pair of second end panel and securing in position.

49. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 48, in which the end flaps are secured in position using an adhesive prior to the step of folding the one of said pair of second end panel.

50. (original) A method as claimed in claim 47, in which the process of forming each end wall comprises the following sequential steps:

a) folding the first end panel having the end tab connected thereto and holding the first end panel in position by fixing the end tab to a side wall or to the underside of the corresponding second end panel, the end tab having itself been folded into the appropriate configuration;

b) folding the second end panel and securing it in position;

c) folding the opposing end flaps and securing in position.

51. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 47, in which the end flaps are folded substantially simultaneously.

52. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 43, in which an item or items to be stored are inserted into an interior void defined by the assembled side walls prior to the step of forming the end walls.

53. (original) A method as claimed in claim 52, in which both end walls are formed substantially simultaneously.

54. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 43, in which a first end wall is formed and an item or items to be stored is/are inserted into an interior void defined by the assembled side walls and the first end wall prior to the second wall being formed.

55. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 40, in which the end tab, and/or the side tab, and or the end panels and/or the end flaps are secured in position by means of an adhesive.

56. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 55, in which the adhesive is pre-applied.

57. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 40, in which the end tab is secured to said side wall.

58. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 40, in which the end tab is secured to the underside of the second end panel.

59. (cancelled)